

Union Calendar No. 499

80TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { No. 961

NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 1947

JULY 16, 1947.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. HOFFMAN, from the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4214]

The Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4214) to promote the national security by providing for a Secretary of Defense; for a National Military Establishment; for a Department of the Army, a Department of the Navy, and a Department of the Air Force; and for the coordination of the activities of the National Military Establishment with other departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the national security (short title, "National Security Act of 1947"), having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

STATEMENT

The original bill was transmitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on February 26, 1947, by the President, by letter informing the Speaker that the bill had been drawn by representatives of his office and of the armed forces and had the approval of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The bill was introduced by the chairman of the committee, Hon. Clare E. Hoffman, on February 28, 1947, and referred to your committee.

On April 2, 1947, your committee commenced hearings which were finally concluded on July 1, 1947. During this period the committee heard 25 witnesses (list attached) including the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, and the Commandant of the United States Marine Corps. In addition, this group of witnesses included prominent civilian and military leaders representing a wide variety of viewpoints, organizations, and other interests. Your committee has had the benefit of the advice